

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

***This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:***

1. (Original) A device for malting grain, comprising a tower with several tiers, which are separated from each other by tier floors, wherein each tier comprises an air-permeable carrying floor to support the grain to be germinated, along with air conditioning agents for conditioning the air and displacement means, also comprising a supply canal and discharge canal for displacing conditioned air via the supply canal, which extends starting from the air conditioning means to the bottom side of a carrying floor, through the carrying floor and a grain layer lying thereupon to the upper side of the grain layer, and via the discharge canal and away from the upper side of the grain layer, characterized in that the supply canal and/or discharge canal extends through a central opening into at least one tier floor (7, 8, 9, 10).

2. (Original) The device according to claim 1, characterized in that the supply canal and discharge canal extend through a central opening into at least one tier floor (7, 8, 9, 10).

3. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the discharge canal empties out at the air conditioning means.

4. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, characterized in that the discharge canal empties in the outside environment of the tower (2, 3).

5. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the supply canal and discharge canal, which belong to the same carrying floor (11, 12, 13), extend adjacently through a central opening in a tier floor (7, 8, 9, 10).

6. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one central opening through which the supply canal and/or the discharge canal extends is circular.

7. (Original) The device according to claim 6, characterized in that the supply canal and/or the discharge canal has an at least primarily segmental cross-section at the location of the at least one central opening.

8. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 5 ~~or 6~~, characterized in that the diameter of the at least one central opening measures at least 10 meters, preferably at least 12 meters.

9. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the each carrying floor is annular, wherein the inner diameter measures at least 10 meters, preferably at least 12 meters.

10. (Original) The device according to claim 9, characterized in that the carrying floor has a radial overstress of at least 7 meters between the inner diameter and outer diameter.

11. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 8, ~~9 or 10~~, characterized in that the carrying floor can revolve around a rotational axis that extends through the cardoid line of the annular shape.

12. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the air conditioning means are located under the level of the tier floor beneath the lowermost carrying floor for the grain to be germinated.

13. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the air conditioning means are located over the level of the tier floor above the uppermost carrying floor of the tower.

14. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the air conditioning means are located within the outer periphery of the tier floors.

15. (Currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that another carrying floor is provided to support germinated grain to be dried under the level of the tier floor beneath the lowermost carrying floor for the grain to be germinated.

16. (Original) The device according to claim 15, characterized in that the additional carrying floor for the germinated grain to be dried has the same dimensions as the carrying floor for the grain to be germinated.

17. (Original) The device according to claim 1, characterized in that the carrying floor (11, 12, 13) is permeable to air, preferably perforated.